

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method for the manufacture of high concentration manganese minitabets for aluminum bath alloying, which has, ~~having~~ as its object the production of Mn minitabets or tablets with a concentration between 90 and 98 wt% of said manganesemetal, starting from a mixture of powdered α -Mn and Al[[,]] for the alloying of aluminum and other metal baths, which comprises:

- (a) grinding electrolytic Mn from flakes of a chemical purity of 99.7 wt% or more, and
- (b) mixing said powdered α -Mn with Al powder atomized by mechanical means, with wherein said Al powder has a controlled grain size distribution between 100 and 800 microns[[,]] and with over 80 wt% of said Al powder is between 350 and 720 microns, and
- (c) while a-checking to insure that the is-made-on-the-Mn-grinding such that ~~a~~ content of fine α -Mn powder with a size of less than 100 microns[[,]] is not more than 15% by volume.

2. (Previously presented) The method for the manufacture of high concentration manganese minitabets for aluminum bath alloying, according to claim 1, characterized in that the ground electrolytic Mn is subjected to a screening process with a sieve with a mesh of less than 450 microns.

3. (Currently amended) The method for the manufacture of high concentration manganese minitabets for aluminum bath alloying, according to claim 1, characterized in that the levels of the Mn and Al~~7~~-mix in the corresponding compacting means are monitored by respective sensors to keep this mix level between limits that assure the execution of the actual compacting.

4-5. (Canceled)